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THE

UNDERSTANDING

OF

CHURCH MUSIC:

Whereby the names of the lines and spaces, are not altered, by the flats and sharps.

FOR THE MILENNIUM.

BY JOHN STILL-WILL,

AUTHOR OF "THE LAST SPARK OF FREEDOM,"

The Odd Man's Tract,

And so forth.

1871
WASHINGTON

THE NEW TEST-I-MENT.

BALTIMORE:
1838.

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3570

THE UNDERSTANDING

OF

CHURCH MUSIC.

December the 27th, 1837.

The second reply to Mr. Fulton. Being inspected by the Rev. William Finney of Harford county in Maryland, for the sake of shifting the (political) gamut upwards, or downwards, as occasion may require, instead of shifting the (republican) stave. But my understanding may be blinded in such a manner, that I cannot see the necessity of shifting the FA, SOL, LAS, in the American church toleration until I receive further information. However some of the buildings do not front the west, with the wrong hand towards the south, and the left foot foremost. Mark time in order for the republick.

Dear Sir. For the sake of being in accordance with Mr. Dyer's four flats and sharp F, I am fully determined to give (Henry) C the same natural sound on the given stave. Whereas, with one flat instead of seven, the third sound of the natural key, has become the seventh sound. Because the fourth sound below C has become the first of the seven graduated sounds, beginning a new octave from the sound of F. Whereby, C has become the fifth

sound, being in conjunction with the singer's G, when he sounds the word SOL, two whole tones below his upper B; instead of being on the right hand (with the singer's first sound) in conjunction with F, which is on the left hand, outside of the stave. But, as it is the sound of B, that is the only sound that I must alter with one flat, to agree with all the teachers of Music in this world. All the FA, SOL, LAS, may still remain as they were on the natural key, just by sounding Me flat through the whole tune, without a natural to restore Me, in the same manner as you sound many sharps through part of a tune.

As for my part, I do not wish to take Me from B, for the sake of shifting one semitone, and this implies that I cannot shift them both by Mr. Dyer's system, because the seventh sound for such a flat B, is that same sound, which was called the third sound on the natural key, because E is the seventh sound from F. And you know it is the third sound on every Major key, that is the only foundation for any semitone, excepting the Me, and the Me is the seventh sound on the aforesaid key, consequently, if that which was the third sound, to form a semitone for the natural key, has become the seventh sound, of a flat key, to form a semitone by the Me, I must retain one of the natural semitones, by taking the lower one (as E) for the upper one. Well then, where is the lower semitone for this flat B, if it is not three tones and a half lower than the aforesaid E. To explain this by a parable, suppose you have a pole with seven numbers marked on it, one below another, and the law demands that you shall

have no more than seven original numbers on this octave pole. However, some one else, by marking numbers below, has converted your third number (as E) into a seventh number. The next thing you may want is an axe, to cut the four numbers off, which are above that which was your third number, and when they are off, you may say the sound of these numbers are not altered, merely because they are not sounded at all by striking the octave pole. Every time this fellow adds four numbers at the bottom, you will be under the necessity of cutting four numbers off at the top, on account of the law that is herein stated.

If B is flat only, I do not shift the FA, SOL, LAS, but I sound B flat through the whole tune, or part of the tune as the transition may require, because I cannot alter the sound of the lines or spaces, not even the sound of A in the space below Me, let alone the sound of C in the space above.

Any transition that may be wrought in us individually, has nothing to do with our transposition in the government. But nevertheless, you will always find me a whole tone above the Minor key, whether I am flat or sharp, because there is but one semitone above me, even on the Major key, whenever you begin with Henry Clay, until you sound me again.

QUESTION.

What will become of the righteous, if the powers of righteousness are shaking on earth, in every de-

partment of political Music, similar to that shaking which was spoken of concerning the downfall of Jerusalem, and recorded in the 21st chapter of Luke, at the 26th verse.

The spirits of the brave,
Are not inclined to vengeance,
Although they try to save.

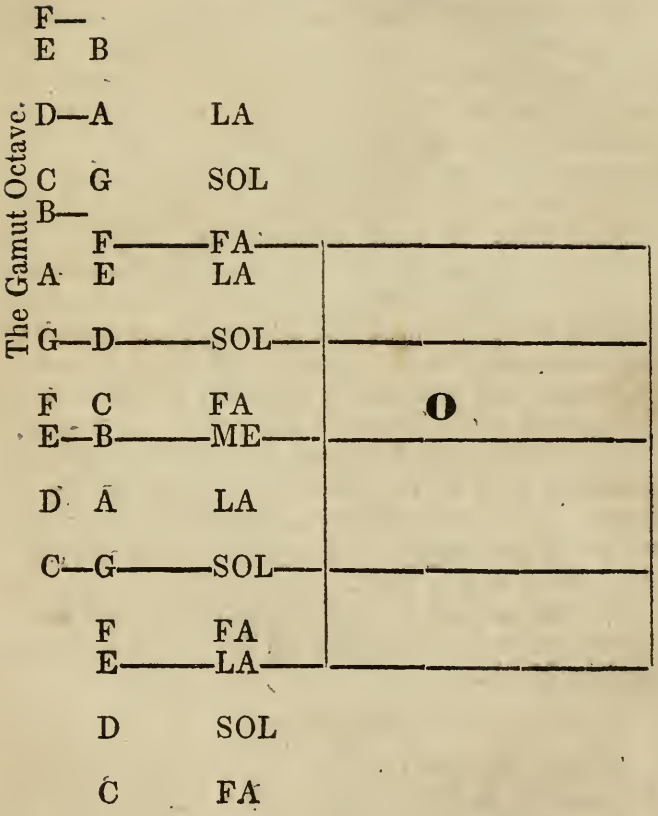
Lead us not into temptation as some do, but nevertheless, deliver us all from evil, if you can.

Signed Hope.

N. B. The inscription of the money may belong to the Cesars, but the money itself belongs to them that earns it, and the tax money belongs to the public at large.

SCALE.

The Singer's Stave.



MR. FULTON'S ANSWER.

To John Still-will, Professor of Music.

You still appear to be the same inquisitive Musical being that you were last winter, or your document which came to me is a mistake. You seem to be inquiring into a subject which you seem to understand perfectly. And therefore, I deem it unnecessary for me to attempt to enlarge upon this difficult science Your writing is high and a substantial proof of your acquirement, because you have reached far beyond the Musical composers of modern or ancient times: and struck a new and untrodden path, by which you outstrip even prophecy. My advice to you is the motto of Davy Crockett, go ahead, and you will accomplish as much as did Petropindo when he strove ten yeais to get an iron ring on the horn of the moon, in order that he might make use of it as a locomotive to carry him to the skies. It is a lamentable fact that Mr. Dyer is dead, otherwise you might challenge him for a spar, with semibreves and so forth.

C is the natural key of the Major scale, and C its octave, and so it is with all the rest of the letters used in Music.

QUESTION.

Where are the relative Minor keys, to all the Major keys, if they are not young Adams men; and where are the relative Major keys, to all the Minor keys, if they are not old headed Clay men.

CAGO.

Mr. Fulton—Sir—

As one of the Dyers I have lived among the dead, But taking your advice I may be holy lead: Whereas I now ask the following question respecting the fallibility of the Protestants, as well as all the Popes, in preserving the original sense of Scripture.

QUESTION.

Who was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, according to the present translation, as it is found in the first chapter of Matthew at the 16th verse, comparing this 16th verse with the 23d verse in the 3d chapter of Luke.

Whereas, the buts, ifs and ands, are not all in their proper places. I ask this question because Matthew says that Jacob begat Joseph, and Luke reads as though it was Heli, merely because the word, but, is not found in this printed matter between the word Joseph, and the word which, in the last clause of this 23d verse in Luke's third chapter. This verse says that Heli was the father of Joseph; just as much as we read in the 31st verse of the same chapter that Nathan was the son of David, which no one has ever disputed.

But the next question is, whether the offspring of Nathan, which is given in the third chapter of Luke, could be expected to be the same, as the offspring of his own brother Solomon, that is given in the first chapter of Matthew.

I wish the reader to pay a particular attention to this matter, because it is a merry-call, whereby an everlasting faith may be established by history on this subject.

See the first book of Chronicles, third chapter at the fifth verse, because that will prove that Solomon and Nathan were whole brothers, having the same father and the same mother

Concordia Day, 1838.

As for Thomas Jefferson being in accordance with me, will become self-evident, because I hold it to be my will, that all men should be considered legitimate, being born equal respecting their father inheritance, as well as religious and political rights. For my part, I will admit, that I cannot declare my generation, although I believe I have three sons now living, that were born in the city of Philadelphia, by the name of Still-will.

N. B. God is not God of the dead. I fancy they were destroyed in hell, by the natural book of death, because they acted contrary to the natural book of life. I also fancy, that they did not endeavor to leave the world for posterity, better than they found it.

Wo unto them that go into the lake that burneth as an oven, with charcoal, nitre, and brimstone, where the worm of evil contention, dieth not, until the subject is destroyed.

Far better for such people, had they not been born—again.

General Jackson, in his letter to the editor of the Globe, July 23, 1837, said, "I hope no treasury notes will be issued."

However, I do not wish the reader to imagine that I am about to confute Mr. Van Buren alto-

gether, with General Jackson's arguments, because I differ with them both, about the present mode of banking.

For instance, if the congressmen are to be the directors in Mr. Van Buren's Bank, it appears evident to me, that their private property should be made subject to seizure by LAW, for all the treasury notes they issue, that is any thing more than drafts, or actual due bills for real value received before these notes, drafts, or due bills, are issued. This should be the case, because the people are the stockholders of the public treasury, and their private property may be subject to seizure on the high seas and elsewhere, in case a foreign nation should hold a great number of these treasury notes, when our rulers might wish to breed a war, by not paying them on demand, similar to the breeding of the war in Baltimore, against the Bank of Maryland, on the 8th, 9th -nd 10th of August, 1835.

And so it is, that the stockholders private property, may be subject to seizure for the debts of the company or nation.

QUESTION.

How is it, that any man who pays a tax, might read his receipt in a public newspaper, as well as every item of the public expense.

This is published in the briefest and most economical manner, for the want of greater resources.

Finished the 9th of March, 1838.

PRUDENCE.

Saint Stephen's accusers said,*

In the Acts of the Apostles, sixth chapter and fourteenth verse,

*We have heard [this Stephen] say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place [meaning old Jerusalem] and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

*Wherefore saint Stephen made answer,

In the Acts of the Apostles seventh chapter and thirty-seventh verse,

*This is that Moses, and again, This is he.

Now, it appears evident to me, that he had a right to change his own customs, by his own sufferings, wherever they might appear wrong to him, as from the experience of the Jews, as well as from the experience of the ancient Edonites that were before the Jews.

Signed, evE backwards.

See Revelation 19th chap. 15th verse.

A map of generations

H 29 83

in the form of a tree

to be attached to this

book

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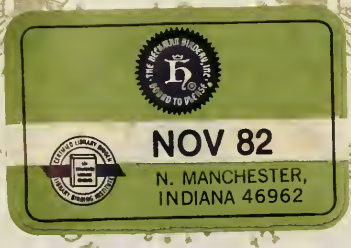

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